

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD – HOLYDAY OF OBLIGATION Solemnity

Saturday January 6 th	6:15 pm	Haldur Gudrunsdottir
Sunday January 7 th	8:00 am	Parishioners
	10:30 am	Mary Sebastian RIP
	2:00 pm	Polish Mass
	4:00 pm	Filipino Mass
	6:30 pm	Maria Adelaide Antonio Alfama RIP
West Mersea	8:30 am	Chris George
Mile End	9:15 am	Intentions: John Brady
Monkwick	10:15 am	Celestine Tighe

Monday, January 8th **THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD Feast**
Church 9:30 am Frederick, Elizabeth & Angelo Lucas RIP

Tuesday, 9th **Feria**
Church 9:30 am Bridget Lloyd RIP

Wednesday, 10th **Feria**
Church 12:15 pm Canon John Blomfield RIP
Church 4:30pm Reception of Coffin

Thursday, 11th **Feria**
Church 9:30 am Margaret Power RIP
Church 11:00 am **REQUIEM – JEAN TAYLOR RIP**

Friday, 12th **St Aelred of Rievaulx, Ab**
Church 9:30 am Intentions: Maura and Frank Maguire

Saturday, 13th **Feria**
Church 9:30 am Intentions: Reddie Family

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME [B] – [Peace Day]

Saturday, January 13 th	6:15 pm	Mrs Maureen Clarke RIP
Sunday, January 14 th	8:00 am	Teresa Hanley RIP
	10:30 am	Antoinetta Caldeira RIP
	2:00 pm	Polish Mass
	5:00 pm	Holy Hour
	6:30 pm	Parishioners
West Mersea	8:30 am	Patrick Brennan RIP
Mile End	9:15 am	Canon Tony McKentey RIP
Monkwick	10:15 am	Tony Wright RIP

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturday 9:45-10:30am; 5:30-6pm
SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE: At least six months notice is required

ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN
CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

WITH MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK



Mgr Christopher Brooks

Fr. Alex Poblador, RCJ

Fr Philip Willenbrock

51 Priory Street, Colchester, Essex, CO1 2QB

Tel: 01206 866317

E-Mail colchester@dioceseofrentwood.org

www.stjamesthelessandstheleen.org

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

January 7th 2018 – Parish Mass Book pp 115-118

The three “wise men” were pagan astrologers, priests of an ancient Persian sect. Having witnessed the appearance of an extraordinary star, they set out on a long journey - perhaps 1,000 miles – moved by a simple desire: to find *the infant king of the Jews and do him homage* [cf .Mt 2:1-2]. When at last they reached the place where the Child was they [fell] to their knees before him. They offered him precious gifts. Then they returned to Persia where, according to tradition, they later received baptism at the hand of St Thomas the Apostle.

Meditating on the gifts brought to Christ by the Magi, Gregory Nazianzen teaches, “Let us remain in adoration; and to him who, in order to save us, humbled himself to such a degree of poverty as to take our flesh, let us offer him not only incense, gold and myrrh [the first as God, the second as King and the third as one who sought death for our sake], but also spiritual gifts, more sublime than those which can be seen with the eyes.”

Loving Father, through the intercession of Saints Balthasar, Caspar and Melchior, let me lay before you all that I have.

PLEASE SEE MASS SCHEDULE FOR ALL CHANGES

SUNDAYS: Divine Mercy and Rosary Following 8am Mass
CHRISTIAN MEDITATION Tuesdays – Crypt 8:00pm
DAILY: Morning Prayer 8:30am; Rosary/Divine Mercy 8:50am
FILMS FOR FAITH: Details to follow

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Please remember in your prayers; Percy Abrahams, John Ashdown-Hill, Pat Banks, Nicollas and Adam Campbell-Vencarto, Vicky Culham, Cosette Devaux, John Disley, Teresa Emoli, Jim Harvey, John Harvey, Jan Holden, Julie Jefferies, Pat Keene, Roger Kemp, Marie Kent, Patrick King, Peter Ledgley, Nathanael Lee, Joanne Leon, Doreen Lowe, Marie Lyons, Bernadette McLean, Jean Mansell, Mary-Ann Martin, Cara Maude, David Merryman, Byron Miller, Amadine Morgan, Margaret Norman, Charles Norman, Elizabeth Pace, Anne Renwick, Leah Patterson, Ronald Quijano, Christine Staines, Filomena Velasquez, Mary Wallace, Brea Ward, Alice White, Patricia Wiltshire.

THANK YOU: To everyone involved with the Curry Night. It was a very successful evening and everyone enjoyed themselves! The sum of £487 was raised for Church funds.

THE NEXT BAPTISM COURSE: All enquiries regarding the next Baptism Course are to be emailed to Fr Chris at colchester@dioceseofbrentwood.org

BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY: This special collection continues until the Presentation of the Lord [Candlemas] on 2nd February in order to aid the splendid work done by the Society with families in our Diocese who are struggling with difficult situations.

UPCOMING DIOCESAN SECOND COLLECTIONS: January 14th -Pax Christi; January 28th - Racial Justice Sunday; February 11th – Lourdes Sick & Helpers Fund; February 23rd – CAFOD Lent Fast Day.

ST THOMAS MORE ADMISSIONS FOR 2018/19: *[Council closing dates for admissions is 15.01.18].* As some parents were unable to attend the earlier dates, the following two dates for when Fr Chris and Fr Alex will be signing the Certificates of Practice are:

TODAY Sunday 7.1.18 – 3:30pm – 4pm in the Crypt
Tuesday 9.1.18 – 7pm – 7.30pm in the Crypt

There is no need to make an appointment as parents will be seen on a first come, first served basis. *Entrance to the Crypt is via the Church.*

RECENTLY DECEASED: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Mary Beattie who has recently died. May she rest in peace and we pray for the comfort of her bereaved family. Funeral arrangements will be advised in due course,

RCIA GROUP: Recommences on Thursday, January 11th, in the Crypt between 7pm-8:30pm.

BIBLE STUDY GROUP: Recommences on Wednesday, January 17th, in the Crypt between 10am – 12pm. Topic from January to March; The Weakness of God. Exploring some of the Hebrew Prophets and the Christian Scriptures.

OFFICE VACANCY: The Trustees of the Charity of The Canonesses of the Holy Sepulchre (www.canonesses.co.uk) are looking for a flexible part time Bookkeeper and Financial Administrator for their Charity. The person will be based at our Colchester address and will be required to work for three short days a week but exact working hours can be flexible and will total around 60 hours a month. Salary in line with bookkeeping norms .For more information and to request an application form, email crssuk@canonesses.co.uk. Closing date 18th January 2018. Shortlisting will be on 19th January and interviews on 30th January to start work at the beginning of March.

100 CLUB: *Christmas Draw Winners:* Julia Curties; Lauren Newland; Callum Smith; Valerie Thurston; Canon Tony McKentey [the £20 will be allocated for a Mass Stipend for the repose of Canon Tony's soul]; Ethan Smith. *December Draw Winners:* Mrs Macdonald; Rosalie Sutcliffe; Julia Curties. *Congratulations!*

Annual £12 subscriptions for 2018 are now due. These can be renewed at Priory Street over this weekend and next, after all Masses. Arrangements for renewal at Mersea, Mile End and Monkwick will be notified in next week's newsletter.

GIDEA PARK STUDY DAYS: UNDERSTANDING THE CREED On Wednesdays 24th and 31st January from 7 p.m. until 8.30 pm Fr Adrian Graffy will lead an exploration of the Nicene Creed recited at Sunday Mass. These 'Gidea Park Faith Evenings' will take place in the hall at Gidea Park Catholic Church (410 Brentwood Road, Gidea Park, RM2 6DH). Please book by email to GPstudydays@gmail.com Refreshments provided. Admission free.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2018: Advance notice of the date of the 2018 Diocesan Pilgrimage: 23rd-28th July 2018. Further information to follow.

CARDINAL BOURNE HALL BOOKINGS: cb.hall@btinternet.com 07758 805263

2018 CHURCH CLEANERS' ROTA: Monday 8th January; Team 3.